Education for All Convention

1241. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether the UNESCO's Global Monitoring Report predicts that India would fail to achieve the goals set under the Dakar Education for All convention;

whether having spent 61 % of the funds allocated the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, has not resolved the issues of inadequate school infrastructure, textbooks availability, teacher shortage and absenteeism; and

Government's comments on the findings of the Global Monitoring Report of UNESCO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) No, sir. UNESCO's Global Monitoring Report 2006 concludes that out of the six goals of Education for All, India is at risk of not achieving one goal of improving literacy by at least 50% by 2015. However, Government of India does not agree with this conclusion as it appears to be based on outdated data and does not take into account recent initiatives and programmes.

The goal of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme is to achieve universal elementary education by 2010 through incremental investments in the elementary education sector.

Malnutrition in Maharashtra

1242. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether Maharashtra is rated second in terms of malnutrition after Kalahandi in Orissa;

if so, the details thereof;

whether more than one lakh children die or are stillborn in a year in the State;

if so, whether Government have appointed any committee to study child deaths in the State;